Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8998

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: CGEN

SUBJ: EMBASSY EMPLOYEES SUMMONED TO TESTIFY

1. EMBASSY VICE CONSUL AND A LOCAL EMPLOYEE HAVE BEEN HANDED OFFICIAL SUMMONS BY THE BAHAMIAN CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPT TO TESTIFY AT A COURT OF ENQUIRY ON JANUARY 20, 1977 WHICH WILL HEAR AND DETERMINE A CHARGE OF MISREPRESENTATION BROUGHT AGAINST A POLICE OFFICER UNDER THE BAHAMIAN POLICE DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS AND POLICE ACT. THIS ENQUIRY IS UNDOUBTEDLY THE RESULT OF THE FOLLOWING MEMORANDUM WRITTEN BY THE VICE CONSUL TO THE CHIEF OF THE CONSULAR SECTION AND THEN FORWARDED TO THE SUPERINTENDENT OF CID.

2. "TO: STEPHEN VITALE, FROM: ANITA D. BANKS SUBJECT: LAWRENCE G. CHISHOLM

IT HAS COME TO MY ATTENTION THAT LAWRENCE G. CHISHOLM, WHO RECEIVED A B-2 VISA ON JULY 21, 1976, WAS ACTUALLY INELIGIBLE FOR THE VISA AT THE TIME OF APPLICATION UNDER SECTION 212(A)(9) OF THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT. THE MISTAKE WOULD HAVE GONE UNNOTICED HAD IT NMT BEEN FOR AN OBSERVANT VISA CLERK QUERYING THE ISSURANCE OF THIS VISA AFTER DISCOVERING THE APPROVED APPLICATION FORM ON FILE. THE CLERK ADMITTED HAVING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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KNOWLEDGE OF MR. CHISHOLM'S FRAUD AND FORGERY ACTIVITIES BECAUSE OF HIS ATTEMPTS AT MISREPRESENTING HIMSELF AS AN ARCHITECT.

"A CHECK WITH CORPORAL FERNANDER OF THE CRIMINAL RECORDS OFFICE REVEALED THAT MR. CHISHOLM HAD BEEN CONVICTED JUNE 23, 1972 ON TWO COUNTS OF FRAUD BY FALSE PRETENSES (12 MONTH SENTENCE ON EACH COUNT TO RUN CON-

SECUTIVELY) AND TWO COUNTS OF ATTEMPTED FRAUD BY FALSE PRETENSES (THREE MONTH SENTENCE ON EACH COUNT TO RUN CONSECUTIVELY). HAD THIS INFORMATION BEEN KNOWN AT THE TIME OF APPLICATION, MR. CHISHOLM WOULD HAVE BEEN FOUND INELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A VISA AS THE OFFENSES COMMITTED INVOLVED MORAL TURPITUDE.

"IT SHOULD BE FURTHER NOTED THAT I HAD INDICATED ON THE APPLICATION FORM, FS-257, THAT MR. GRIFFIN OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION SUBMITTED TO ME PERSONALLY MR. CHISHOLM'S PASSPORT AND APPLICATION FORM. NOTATIONS ON APPLICATION FORMS ARE NORMALLY MADE WHEN SPECIAL INTEREST IN A CASE IS SHOWN BY A PERSON OTHER THAN THE APPLICANT. I DO NOT RECALL AT THIS TIME WHETHER A POLICE CERTIFICATE WAS PRESENTED. MR. GRIFFIN CERTAINLY DID NOT MENTION THE APPLICANT'S CRIMINAL RECORD. IF A POLICE CERTIFICATE HAD BEEN SUBMITTED SHOWING MR. CHISHOLM'S RECORD, IT WOULD HAVE UNDOUBTEDLY LED TO A FINDING OF VISA INELIGIBILITY." DATED DECEMBER 3, 1976.

3. THE VICE CONSUL AND LOCAL EMPLOYEE WERE QUESTIONED AT EMBASSY BY THE SUPT AND SIGNED STATEMENTS AFFIRMING THE FACTS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM. SUPT LATER INFORMED EMBASSY THAT THE POLICE OFFICER HAD INITIALLY DENIED PRESENTING APPLICANT'S VISA APPLICATION AND PASSPORT TO THE VICE CONSUL, BUT HAD CHANGED HIS ANSWER WHEN CONFRONTED WITH THE SIGNED STATEMENTS. THE POLICE OFFICER FACES COURT MARTIALLING IF FOUND GUILTY OF USING HIS POSITION AND INFLUENCE TO PROCURE A VISA FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AN INELIGIBLE APPLICANT.

4. EMBASSY IN THIS CASE WOULD LIKE TO RECIPROCATE POLICE COOPERATION AND UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE BY DEPARTMENT, TWO EMPLOYEES WILL RESPOND TO SUMMONS AND TESTIFY AT ENQUIRY.
OLSON

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